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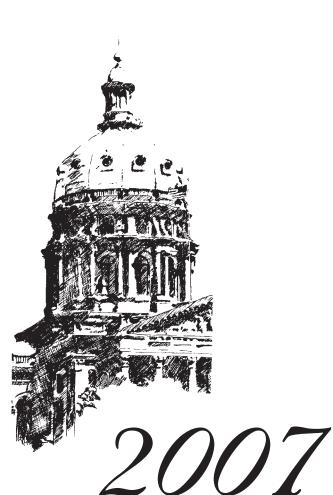


Judy Jeffrey
Director and
Executive Officer

Our Mission...

...is to champion excellence in education through superior leadership and service. We are committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.





Begislative
Advocacy Agenda

Funding...

K-12:

- Fund the four percent allowable growth rate already established in 2007-08.
- Renew the Class Size/Early Intervention program for a period of at least four years and increase the \$30 million per year categorical amount by at least the allowable growth rate.

Community Colleges:

- Increase funding for lowa's community colleges by \$12,168,888.
- Increase the community college levy authority to provide increased capacity to support local and regional decisionmaking.

AEAs:

 Fully restore the \$10 million reduction to AEAs in order to better meet the needs of districts, teachers, and students, specifically in curriculum and professional development areas.

Department of Education:

- Increase the number of FTEs supporting state mandates and funding priorities. The number of state-funded FTEs has decreased from 181 in 1991 to 76 in 2006, inhibiting the ability of the Department to provide additional supports for quality technical assistance, monitoring, and accountability. Specific staffing needs include:
 - * Management of the Community College MIS system.
 - State consultant to assist local districts with reorganization and whole-grade sharing studies.
 - * State consultants to provide curriculum content area support and support for the State Board-adopted Model Core Curriculum.

everal positive policy and funding actions were taken during the 2006 Legislative process.

Expectations were increased for educators, communities, parents, and students, while additional resources were made available for important supports like teacher salaries and early childhood programming. Iowa, however, remains at a crossroads. Behind us lies several years of inadequate resources, impacting the ability of schools and school districts to address existing achievement gaps and enhance student and teacher performance. Ahead of us exists the opportunity for Iowa to be a world-class educational system. The State Board of Education believes that Iowa should seize the opportunity ahead and continue to evolve into the system that meets ALL students' needs in the 21st century.

Expected Outcomes

- Increase the proficiency of all students in reading, math, and science.
- Increase the K-12 graduation rate.
- Increase the number of 4-yearolds accessing quality preschool programs.

Support Improved Programming and Academic Achievement for ALL Students

- Continue to expand the Teacher Quality and Student Achievement Program.
 - * Increase the quantity and quality of professional development supports for teachers especially in reading, mathematics, and science using content specific teacher academies.
 - * Fund the equivalent of two additional days of professional development for every teacher in the state.
 - * Increase the minimum salary levels for beginning and career teachers established in Iowa Code Chapter 284 by an additional \$1000.
 - * Increase the average salary of all teachers.
 - * Continue support for the National Board Certification and Mentoring and Induction programs.

- Expand the Administrator Quality Program to include the following components:
 - * Standards for administrators similar to the Iowa Teaching Standards for teachers.
 - * Administrator career development plans.
 - * Administrator evaluation processes.
- Improve and expand access to quality preschool programming.
 - * Establish a predictable and sustainable funding mechanism for four-year-old preschool programming similar to the current method of school funding.
 - * Provide voluntary access to quality preschool programs for all 4-year-olds with certified teachers in a variety of settings.
- Provide incentives for school reform, improving efficiencies of school operations/management, and expansion of quality programming.
 - * Support the implementation of Iowa's Model Core Curriculum statewide.
 - * Reinstate requirements for school districts to have counselors and a K-12 counseling program.
 - * Promote financial incentives to share district operational expense and to whole-grade share and/or reorganize.
 - * Continue to promote the expansion of career academies as they exist under current statute.
 - *Support Project Lead the Way.